AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the section "Background" at page 1, line 8 to page 2, line 4 as follows:

Background

Universal Description, Discovery and Integration (UDDI) provides a protocol for providing a requestor of a service location with one or more service locations. A service location is an address, text string, or data that identifies or locates a service provider. A service location may include one or more of a network address, e.g., an Internet Protocol (IP) address of 122.233.22.1, a domain name such as www.uspto.gov, a port number, e.g., 2343, a path name such as /bookinventory/scientific, a network protocol, and an email address. One example of a service location is http://www.uspto.gov:2243/bookinventory/scientific. Another example of a service location is scientificbooks@uspto.gov. A Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) may qualify as a service location. A syntax for URIs may be found at http://www.ietforg/rfc/rfc2396.txt.

In the UDDI model, service locations are published in a UDDI registry or database. Additionally, information about the service, such as which protocols the service uses may also be placed in the UDDI registry. At the time of the writing of this application, a published specification of UDDI version 3.0 dated July 19, 2002, may be found at http://uddi.org/pubs/uddi v3.htm.

In the UDDI model, a client requests a location of a service provider from a UDDI server. The server then queries the UDDI registry to map the client request to a service location. Then, the server returns a service location to the client. Typically, the client then uses the service location to access the service provider.